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## **DBA Announces \$13 Million in Economic Development Financing**

~VSBFA Assists with the Creation of 550 Jobs~

**RICHMOND** – The Virginia Department of Business Assistance today announced the approval of more than \$13 million in financing and assistance used to aid in the creation of 550 new jobs across the Commonwealth. The Virginia Small Business Financing Authority (VSBFA) approved the funding at a recent board meeting.

The project financing approvals range over a four month period and affect the City of Richmond, the City of Bedford, the Town of Millboro, the Town of Saltville and Fairfax, Henrico and Prince George Counties. The programs of the VSBFA are administered through the Virginia Department of Business Assistance (DBA). The VSBFA promotes Virginia businesses by increasing access to capital and maximizing employment opportunities and investment throughout the Commonwealth.

The VSBFA approved a taxable industrial development bond of up to \$5,000,000 to be used by NatLust of the City of Richmond, to expedite the reimbursement of claims associated with the clean up of leaking underground storage tanks. NatLust anticipates the creation of nine new jobs within two years.

Rubatex, a manufacturer of neoprene in the City of Bedford, received approval for \$290,000 through the VSBFA's Virginia Economic Development Loan Fund and \$110,000 through its Loan Guarantee Program that will be used for working capital and to purchase plant equipment. The company plans to create 28 new jobs.

Bungalow, a gift and home décor manufacturing and design company in Millboro, was approved to receive \$331,250 through the Virginia Economic Development Loan Fund to fund working capital and new equipment. The company retained 18 jobs and expects to fill 15 new jobs within 2 years.

The VSBFA also approved \$499,400 to the Town of Saltville through the Virginia Economic Development Loan Fund to refurbish an existing building and buy equipment that will be leased to Global Contact Services (GCS). GCS will use the space as a call center and plans to fill 300 new jobs within 30 months. In 2004, GCS opened a call center in Pulaski, with the assistance of a VSBFA loan, where they currently employ nearly 200.

The VSBFA approved a guarantee of \$500,000 through its Loan Guaranty Program for InScope Technologies of Fairfax County. The guaranty is for an \$800,000 line of credit to be extended by Access National Bank in Reston, Virginia. InScope Technologies is a two-year old disadvantaged small business that provides customized information technology services to federal government agencies and private sector companies. InScope will utilize the line of credit to provide working capital for operations and anticipates creating 140 new jobs as a result of the financing.

Computer and Scale Tech Services, Inc., a small business located in Henrico County which sells and services commercial and industrial scales, was approved to receive \$200,000 through the VSBFA's *Economic Development Loan Fund*. The loan will be used together with financing provided by the Bank of McKenney to purchase a building in Henrico County in which the company plans to use as headquarters. The financing will result in the anticipated creation of three new jobs.

The VSBFA also approved a \$5,200,000 tax-exempt bond to the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Real Estate Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit organization that was created in 1992 for the purpose of acquiring, developing, owning and leasing real estate for the benefit of VCU and its educational activities. The Foundation will be using the bond proceeds to develop a property located in downtown Richmond for lease to the University's Administrative Information Technology Department. The Foundation anticipates the creation of five jobs as the result of the bond issue.

Service Center Metals, Inc., an aluminum extrusion manufacturer located in the SouthPoint Industrial Park in Prince George County, was approved for a \$2,000,000 loan through the VSBFA's *Economic Development Loan Fund*. Founded in 2002 by three veterans of the aluminum business, Service Center Metals, LLC manufactures aluminum extruded rod, bar, shapes and tubing which is utilized in many different types of industrial applications. The company will utilize the financing to purchase a second extrusion production line, and they expect to create an additional 50 jobs as a result of this expansion.

DBA is the state agency devoted to the growth and success of the Commonwealth's business community. DBA provides access to capital, incentives for workforce training, small business incubator assistance, and business problem solving through the Virginia Business Information Center. For more information about VSBFA loan programs, please visit <a href="www.dba.virginia.gov">www.dba.virginia.gov</a> or contact VBIC by calling (804) 371.0438 or 1-(866) 248-8814 or by e-mailing <a href="WBIC@DBA.VIRGINIA.GOV">VBIC@DBA.VIRGINIA.GOV</a>.

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